

**CALVARY UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**TUESDAY, October 11, 2016 7:00 P.M.**  
**MINUTES**

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PRESENT: Michael Gange, Dave Towers, John Moody, Pat Rowland, Trevor Rutz, Rob Dalziel, Clare Middleton, Marilyn Wicker, Harvey Agnew, Kathy Edwardsen, Denise Koeberlin, Shirley Stobbs, Linda Hodgins, Rev. Nora Vedress, Alison Brooks-Starks, Debbie McPherson

- 1 Call to Order and Opening Prayer – Rev. Nora Vedress 7:10pm  
In the absence of our Chair, John Moody started the meeting.
2. Review of Minutes of September 13, 2016
3. Errors or Omissions  
Spelling of hot dogs
4. Adoption of Minutes of September 13, 2016  
**MOTION** to accept the minutes as circulated with one correction  
Dave Towers/Clare Middleton **CARRIED**
5. Business Arising from the Minutes of September 13, 2016  
Pantry Box was installed beside the mail boxes.  
Alison's discernment committee needs another person to get the process started.
- 6 Review and Adoption of October 11, 2016 Agenda  
**MOTION** to accept the agenda as circulated Michael Gange/Rob Dalziel **CARRIED**
- 7 Correspondence  
A card from a neighbour thanking us for being such good neighbours.
- 8 Staff Reflections  
Debbie  
Things are going well in the office. I'm having a few issues with the email again. Not sure what's happening. I'm waiting for Sasktel to return my call for help. The Church Office Workers Seminar/Retreat/Workshop, whatever you want to call it is happening on October 17-19. I will be out of the office the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>. Barb Dalziel will be covering in the office.  
I will also be out of the office for a few days between Christmas and New Year's. I am hoping that I might get some room for office "stuff" in Lorelei's old office. Right now I can't get to most of the paperwork that is stored in the UCW room because there is just too much stuff in the way. If we could find a way for me to keep the office files in the abandoned office it would be wonderful for me. I leave that to Property to decide. Either way the storage room is in bad need of a clean up. It seems to have become a dumping ground for all kinds of things.  
I have been receiving donations on Sunday morning in the envelopes Stewardship has provided in the pews. How often do you refill your bags? Perhaps they should be regularly checked.  
Alison  
September was a wonderful whirlwind. I am really enjoying this role! Working with Debbie and Nora is fabulous and I have felt so welcomed by everyone in the church.

The highlights for me this month have been during our outdoor gatherings at Solo Time. As one youth said about her experience: "I had no idea being alone would be so powerful." It's been a joy to see people getting to know themselves better.

The first youth group had 24 attendees. Most new youth from outside of Calvary knew me from camp which I think points to the importance of this ministry role being linked to senior camp and to Tapawingo staff training.

I called high schools this month to tell the Gay-Straight Alliance teachers about youth group but in doing so I found out that there are no GSAs in town. I see this as a missing service and I hope to meet with youth about this. I would like to connect youth who don't have many safe spaces to our youth group here.

Home Church was a success with 6 people attending. The long weekend scheduling allowed some to be there who otherwise would not have been in the city, but and also prevented folks from coming who were busy with family. The group already shared vulnerable stories and enjoyed the worship and discussion (and board games after!)

Alison Brooks-Starks

Nora

Well when I look outside it feels like December and I start to panic thinking we need to get Advent ready to go. But nope, it's just October in Saskatchewan so I calm right down again. Even Derek said last night that I seem so much more balanced regarding work these days. Not sure if you'd agree but he and the kids think I'm doing great. Must be the wine!

It certainly has been a fall to remember. Sadly our increased time spent with funeral preparation has continued. In the 11 years we've been together I've never buried so many church people. It hurts my heart. But also fills me with peace as many families are turning to us to help support and honour their loved ones.

Life in the church is otherwise going well. I'm enjoying watching Alison at work with all her energy and creativity. There is a lot of laughter in the office...Debbie is super funny...so it feels great. With the number of funerals we've had I fear Worship has seemed a bit "thrown together" but the goal is to worship God and pause in prayer so at least we are getting that accomplished. Advent in truth has begun to percolate in my brain so I'm looking forward to that. But for now pastoral care and funeral prep is the main stay of my existence.

I continue my outreach with the City Police and leave in the morning for two days of Health and Wellness Training in Saskatoon. Later in the week I am heading to Ontario to take a homiletics course (first one in 15.5 years and about time no doubt) after which I will spend three days with my parents to do some doctoring with dad. Tony Thompson is on call while I'm in Ontario.

The Highs for the month...such funny children's story moments (the Holy Raccoon!), and quite a few returning and new faces in worship. Lows for the month...significant paper work pile up due to other more pressing and necessary things.

For now I think that is all I know

Respectfully submitted Rev. Nora Vedress

## 9 Committee Reports

### 9.1 Ministry and Personnel Michael Gange

**MOTION** Alison needs a phone Kathy Edwardsen/Shirley Stobbs

**CARRIED**

9.2 Trustees Rob Dalziel  
Still need a new trustee

9.2 Presbytery Debbie McPherson  
Meeting in Hudson Bay next week

9.3 Mission & Outreach Kathy Edwardsen  
Had meetings the past 2 Mondays and have now completed the calendar.  
Hope to have it ready for sale the beginning of November. Free will donation rather than a set price  
Muffin Sale on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

9.4 Worship – Shirley Stobbs  
September went well and so did the Everybody BBQ.  
There will be baptism on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>.

**MOTION** to accept for baptize Emmie Carly Alexandra Broome, daughter of Steven and Erika Broome. Shirley Stobbs/Dave Towers **CARRIED**  
Nora presided over 5 funerals in September.  
October 16 will be World Food Sunday.

Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> will be Children's Sunday and it will be based on Stone Soup. We were wondering if it would be possible to have a stone soup and sandwich lunch after church that day.

December 25<sup>th</sup> is a Sunday this year. Do we want to be open that day? Welsey will be open and we will be welcoming them for New Year's Day. We prefer to be closed so Nora can have this day with her family.  
Stone soup and sandwich lunch for November pot luck

9.6 Fellowship –no one here

9.7 Stewardship/Finance-Pat Rowland/Harvey Agnew  
Our Gently Used Clothing Sale, held October 1, made just under \$1,300.  
Clothes left after the sale, were donated to various organizations. Many thanks to Debbie who ran her "café" of squares, coffee and juice during the sale. Also a special thanks to those who helped organize for and work at the sale.  
Due to the sizable deficit that we are facing the Stewardship Committee is planning to send an information letter to Calvary members along with a graph illustrating numbers of members at various levels of giving. Stewardship is asking Council to help generate ideas for how to eliminate our debt and increase our givings.

Harvey – increasing deficit – offerings are going down  
Need a plan for people to increase their givings..

9.8 Christian Education – Denise Koeberlin  
24 in Youth  
Bring a Friend nightg – 4 people  
Samantha has been a big help.  
1-5 people attended Solo night  
facebook page is active  
S.S. 25 each week  
Changed some things up

Spiritual activities  
Quarter Carnival coming up  
Need fish pond items.

9.9 Property – Clare Middleton

1. The sheds have been repaired to remedy the problem created by shingles being torn off and damaged.
2. Edging of the shrub beds has been replaced with recycled rubber material.
3. Painting of the new office area is complete.
4. We are trying to locate room dividers for the library area.
5. The flower bed might get cleaned up if the yard becomes 'less white' than it is right now. We can hope! Excess chairs need to be given away  
Flower beds need to be cleaned up.  
Debbie might get her storage space

9.10 U.C.W Shirley Stobbs

Thank you to all who helped with the fall supper. We cleared \$4,301.85. We served lunch for 3 of the 5 September funerals and we will be serving lunch for Pat Phelps's funeral on Saturday so will need the tables put up once again. They have asked for 200 so we will need some set up in the basement again.

200 set up for Saturday funeral – Pat Phelps

9.11 Adult Christian Education – no one

10 New Business

11 Other Business

12 Benediction Rev. Nora Vedress

13 Adjournment 8:20 pm **MOTION** to adjourn. Linda Hodgins

\*\*Next Council Meeting – November 8th, 2016 @ 7 pm

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John Moody, Vice-Chair

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Debbie McPherson, Recording Secretary